GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:8
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
INACTIVACTED POLIO VACCINE
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce Inactivated Polio Vaccine with a view to withdraw the present Oral Polio Vaccine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent re-emergence of the disease?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) to (c): No Sir, there is no proposal to withdraw the present Oral Polio Vaccine. The Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV) only provides individual immunity without interrupting transmission. Therefore, the OPV remains the vaccine of choice for polio eradication.

(d): To achieve early interruption of polio transmission Government has internsified Supplementary immunization activities by:-

conducting consistent high quality supplemental immunization rounds in January, February, April and May, June, July, September and Novermber, 06 and plan National immunization rounds in the month of January and February, 2007.

Monovalent oral polio vaccine 1 (mOPV1) are being used in the high risk districts and States to enhance immunity so that the presently circulating P1 virus can be interrupted.

An additional round with monovalent Oral Polio vaccine 3 (mOPV3) is planned in 5 districts of Moradabad region in December, 2006.

To enhance the immunity of newborns a especial drive to vaccinate newborns within 72 hours of birth have been initiated in selected high-risk blocks.

Social Mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local influencers, community and religious leaders to improve community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine.

State Political Leadership and Administration are continuously being updated on the identified gaps in the implementation of the Program, they in-turn are constantly monitoring the progress with the District Administration. The District Magistrates are taking corrective action through the District Task Force formed to accelerate the programme implementation.